

A composition comprising at least one hydroxide compound and at least one complexing agent effective for dissociating the at least one hydroxide compound in sufficient quantity to effect lanthionization of keratin fibers. The at least one complexing agent is chosen from compounds comprising at least one group of formula (I) and salts thereof. Also disclosed is a method for lanthionizing keratin fibers to achieve relaxation of the keratinous fibers and a multicompartment kit comprising an activating composition and at least one hydroxide compound.

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